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The Allen-Scott Report

Castro Pilots Take Soviet Migs Way Up Over Waters Between Cuba and Florida

While the public gaze is focused on the crisis in West Berlin and at the United Nations, U.S. defense officials are closely watching the aggressive maneuvers of Dictator Castro's small jet air force.

The growing Cuban air force, which now consists of a dozen Soviet-built Mig-17s, is sending single planes flying high-altitude missions toward the U.S.

The Migs, piloted by Cuban air

force personnel trained in Czechoslovakia, always turn back to Cuba after reaching a distance approximately 80 miles from the Florida coast.

The Navy or Air Force is making no effort to intercept these Cuban jets, since the planes are not violating U.S. air space. However, when spotted by U.S. patrol planes, the Migs are tracked. Should they stray within the three-mile limit of the U.S., the planes will be forced down.

The mysterious flights are be-

ing conducted at altitudes of more than 35,000 feet.

Castro's apparent goal in these mysterious flights is to build up experience among his pilots in flying the "water corridor" between the U.S. and Cuba.

With a potential air force of 25 Mig-17s (an estimated 13 of the jets are still in crates) and the pilots to fly them, Castro will soon possess Latin America's showiest and most up-to-date air force.

Already, U.S. military intelligence is warning that Castro's air force will become bolder as more planes become operational.

They expect the Cuban jets to flex their muscles much closer to the Florida coast to show Latin nations that Castro can thumb his nose at the U.S. from his "privileged sanctuary" without getting into serious trouble.

INTELLIGENCE FLASHES —

the Central Intelligence Agency reports that *Prensa Latina*, once the most respected paper in Havana, now has a new editor, Fernando Revuelta.

Revuelta is a Spanish Nationalist who just arrived in Cuba from Mexico. According to the CIA report, Revuelta was given the post in order to try to win back the confidence of Latin American diplomats in Havana. Revuelta is a Communist, according to the CIA, but this isn't generally known throughout South America. The Cuban air force personnel that just returned from Czechoslovakia is reported to be the vanguard of a group eventually to number several hundred, according to U.S. Intelligence.

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